

OCTOBER 2014 STATUS UPDATE OF BRCCP RECOMMENDATIONS

**BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION ON CHILD PROTECTION**

***DASHBOARD ON PROJECTS LED BY COUNTY DEPARTMENTS***

DEPARTMENTS	RECOMMENDATIONS	IMPLEMENTED/ IN PROGRESS
▪ Children and Family Services	18	10
▪ Health and Public Health (DHS & Mental Health	3	3
▪ Law Enforcement	3	3
▪ Multi-Departmental	4	4
	5	5
<b>TOTAL DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>25</b>
▪ Education	3	3
▪ Office of Child Protection	24	0
<b>TOTAL RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>28</b>

The 33 recommendations listed below are those recommendations which departments are in the process of implementing or have completed.

LEGEND FOR STATUS ■ In progress ■ Requires additional step ★ Completed

**DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES**

**1.1 Kinship Care (TT #9; BRCCP rec. VI, pp. 22-23)**

Recommendation	Individual Responsible	Status	Status Update	Time-frame	Est. Cost
Examine ability to waive federal eligibility rules to support children in out of home care.	Cynthia McCoy Miller	<span style="color: yellow;">■</span>	DCFS submitted a non-binding letter of interest regarding the State's ARCFO Program (SB 855).	12/31/14	
Utilize Title IV-E waiver for children placed with kin and in foster family settings	Cynthia McCoy Miller	<span style="color: yellow;">■</span>	Counties awaiting for CDSS to issue State guidelines regarding SB 855.	12/31/14	
Ensure relative caregivers are more fully supported to address a range of needs (i.e., resource center)	Rhelda Shabazz	<span style="color: yellow;">■</span>	Additional Funding to establish a 24/7 Kinship Resource Center is needed to be further explored by DCFS; contracting out services may provide an option for expanded services countywide.	03/31/15	<a href="#">\$1.0M[1]</a>
Determine a more streamlined county licensing system for foster homes and supports for relatives	Rhelda Shabazz	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	DCFS and State Licensing have completed BPR and are reviewing ways to streamline process.	03/31/15	

**1.2 Recruitment of Non-Relative Foster Homes (TT #10; BRCCP rec. VI, p. 24)**

Recommendation	Individual Responsible	Status	Status Update	Time-frame	Est. Cost
Conduct an independent analysis of non-relative foster family recruitment efforts	Rhelda Shabazz	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	An independent UCLA research team is analyzing the DCFS recruitment process, current census, and retention and outcome data.	03/31/15	Funded by Pritzker Fndn
Develop a computerized, real-time system to identify available and appropriate placements based on the specific needs of the child	Cecilia Custodio	<span style="color: yellow;">■</span>	Implemented department-wide enhancements to Foster Care Search System 8/18/14. Mobile app developed and in production to help speed up placements and increase reliability of system.	Dept wide implementation is ongoing	
Involve foster youth in rating and assessment of foster homes	Rhelda Shabazz	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	Survey in progress to reach out to former foster youth. During annual re-evaluation and quality assurance review process of placement facilities, DCFS will interview a sample of placed children to obtain their input on their placement experience.	12/31/14	

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<b>1.3 Improve Safety (Eckerd) (TT # 11; BRCCP rec. VII, pp. 25-26) – consolidated from eight recs –</b>					
<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Individual Responsible</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Status Update</b>	<b>Time-frame</b>	<b>Est. Cost</b>
Identify risk factors in cases resulting in child fatalities	Dianne Iglesias		DCFS developing a Pilot with SAS to develop a data mining and analytical tool for early identification and intervention of cases based on high risk levels. DCFS monitors high risk cases associated with AB 109 releases, Sex Offender Registry,	12/31/14	
Design technological solution to ensure info is shared; staff is alerted when risk factors (AURA project)	Cecilia Custodio		Implementation AURA project is dependent on pilot data results which will be available in Nov/Dec and on funding availability.	12/31/14	
Implement plan by modifying access and delivery of key services for those with highest risk	Dianne Iglesias		DCFS conducted reviews of 100% of child fatalities related to abuse/neglect between 2011 through August 2014. Shared results Department-wide via Lessons Learned notifications and incorporating key factors in trainings and simulation labs.	11/30/14	
Measure progress against the measures of success	Madeline Roachell		DCFS monitors performance using STATS process against Federal/State/County performance indicators and conducts comparison with like jurisdictions.	11/30/14	
<b>1.4 Training and Workforce Development (TT #13; BRCCP rec. VII, pp. 27)</b>					
<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Individual Responsible</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Status Update</b>	<b>Time-frame</b>	<b>Est. Cost</b>
Conduct cross-training with DCFS employees to improve collaboration (include DMH, DHS, DPH, Dependency Court, Probation)	Madeline Roachell		Current cross-training involves LASD. DCFS Training plans to partner with multiple agencies and Departments to formalize cross training and improve understanding of multi-faceted duties, responsibilities and charge of each agency to enhance efficacy of collaborative work and improve coordination of services to children and families.	06/30/15	<a href="#">\$12M[2]</a>
Train personnel (in-house and contract agencies) on how to most effectively work with age 0-5 population & their families/caretakers	Madeline Roachell		DCFS-LASD Cross Training, DCFS Academy for new CSWs, Regional Center Training, and the collaborative training with the Maternal Mental Health Task Force are examples of current trainings focused on the 0-5 population.	03/31/15	
UCCF to submit annual report on outcomes aligned with County's vision	Madeline Roachell		DCFS concurs that it would be beneficial for UCCF to submit a cumulative annual report directly to the OCP on outcomes that are aligned with the County's vision and mission on child safety.	06/30/15	
Create innovative training for social workers & supervisors; include audit to address workload	Patricia Willems-Dennis		In Aug 2013, DCFS instituted a training program for new staff, including a teaching hospital model that involves Simulation Training. DCFS hired 450 new CSWs to reduce workload Departmentwide. Training, in partnership with UCLA and LASD, continues to enhance collaborative training delivered to new and existing staff through ongoing trainings.	03/31/15	

**OCTOBER 2014 STATUS UPDATE OF BRCCP RECOMMENDATIONS**

**1.5 Transparency & Relationship with Providers & the Community (TT #15; BRCCP rec. VII, pp. 29-31)**

Recommendation	Individual Responsible	Status	Status Update	Time-frame	Est. Cost
Re-establish Community Advisory Councils	Madeline Roachell		Directors Advisory Committee members are helping to reestablish enhanced Regional Advisory Councils.	06/30/15	\$150k
Adopt outcome measures for performance-based contracting	Eric Marts		Contracts Administration Division working with program sections, ISD , Casey, etc to ensure performance based outcome measures are incorporated into Statements of Work. Training for all program managers and contracts staff will be explored.	06/30/15	N/A
Work w/CBOs to enhance grant application & administration	Eric Marts		The DCFS Regional Community Advisory Body (RCAB) workgroup completed the development, implementation plan, and develop clear guidelines to promote and support the community engagement process.	06/30/15	

**DEPARTMENTS OF HEALTH SERVICES AND PUBLIC HEALTH**

Recommendation	Individual Responsible	Status	Status Update	Time-frame	Est. Cost
Conduct assessment on each Medical Hub (DHS)	Dr. Astrid Heger		Present assessment findings to the Transition Team.	10/27/14	N/A
Make DPH's evidence-based+ home visit service available to all children under age one seen at a Hub.	Suzanne Bostwick		Requires further inquiry.	TBD	
Hold DPH responsible for substance abuse treatment for high-risk teen mothers.	Wesley Ford		DPH working with Community Assessment Service Centers to ensure DCFS clients are referred to services and will work with DCFS staff to strengthen referral linkages.	11/30/14	

**DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH**

Recommendation	Individual Responsible	Status	Status Update	Time-frame	Est. Cost
Develop and implement a mandate that non-pharmacological interventions are best practice	Dr. Christopher Thompson		DMH JCMHS is monitoring DCFS youth's medication regimen including non-pharmacological interventions; need for additional psychiatrists is under review; Petitioning the State to allow JCMHS staff access to CWS/CMS; Implementing web-based PMAF submission system, that can be used for tracking and data analysis.	6/30/15	
Incorporate trauma-focused assessments and treatments and vulnerability to self-harming behaviors for teens and transitioning youth	Terri Boykins		Researching vulnerability to self-harm tools. When identified, QA division will implement and add as a module to staff/provider documentation training.	6/30/15	
Provide access to age appropriate MH services for children age five and under in child welfare.	Dr. Sam Chan		DMH is implementing a Birth to 5 Core Competency and intensive reflective practice training program for clinical supervisors. By 2015, over 1,000 mental health clinicians and 35 supervisors will be trained. Training will enable clinicians/supervisors to become certified as Infant-Family and Early Childhood Mental Health (IECMH) specialists and Reflective Practice Facilitators; significantly expanding the pool of experienced and qualified providers.	6/30/15	

OCTOBER 2014 STATUS UPDATE OF BRCCP RECOMMENDATIONS

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY					
Recommendation	Individual Responsible	Status	Status Update	Time-frame	Est. Cost
All Sheriff's and local law enforcement agencies must cross report every child abuse allegation to DCFS.	Joseph Esposito		DA has presented to the Transition Team and are waiting for final budget approval.	TBD	\$764k
DA Should increase its oversight of law enforcement response and sharing of information.	Joseph Esposito			TBD	
Training of all level of law enforcement must be enhanced to include: sufficient initial and recurrent training on child abuse and E-SCARS.	Joseph Esposito			TBD	
E-SCARS should be utilized fully by all relevant agencies and well-maintained and enhanced.	DCFS - Cecilia Custodio			TBD	\$467k
MULTI-DEPT AND MULTI-CLUSTER PROJECTS					
Recommendation	Depts	Status	Status Update	Time-frame	Est. Cost
Provide medical screenings <i>and ongoing care</i> for all children <i>entering placement</i> . (DHS)	DCFS, DPH, DMH, DHS, COCO, CEO		DCFS, DHS, DPH, DMH and County Counsel are currently working on recommendations for Board consideration.		N/A
Pair a Public Health Nurse with a DCFS social worker in child abuse or neglect investigations of all children from birth to age <i>two</i>	DCFS, DPH, DMH, DHS, COCO, CEO		Transition Team update on 10/27/14.		
Develop a clear, multi-system data linkage and sharing plan to operate a single, coordinated system	ALL COUNTY DEPTS			11/15/14	
Create Countywide confidentiality policy regarding sharing of information across depts. and agencies	ALL COUNTY DEPTS		Protocols have been drafted. Team needs to review and finalize the document for approval.		
Identify services currently provided by depts. and other agencies with accompanying budget.	CEO	★	Board memo submitted on October 20 highlights the County's total budget for children and families.		